

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dobreski in view of Paxton.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Tawfik the consideration given applicant's attorney at the interview of December 11, 2003.

As discussed at the interview, the Dobreski patent specifically teaches a plurality of open bags at column 1, lines 55-57 and column 3, lines 33-37 and lines 46-49. Any other arrangement of the clamps 34 in the Dobreski patent would destroy the teachings of this reference of having open mouthed bags for insertion of an object into the bag. Accordingly, it was agreed at the interview that the present invention as embodied in the claims overcomes the combination of Debreski in view of Paxton.

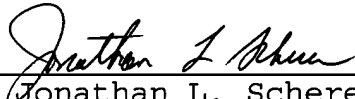
A Terminal Disclaimer over the patent issued to the parent application, U.S. Patent No. 6,334,709, is enclosed.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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